

Drowsy Sleeper (traditional North Carolina)

This conversation between lovers was sung by Rebecca King Jones in the NC mountains for Anne & Frank Warner. I found it in Warners' Traditional American Folk Songs. My favorite line in this song, "If you sing songs go court some other", was the inspiration for the title of my recording.

Wake, O wake you drowsy sleeper
Wake, O wake, it is almost day
How can you sleep, you cruel creature
When you have stolen my heart away

Hush, hush, hush, don't you wake my mother
No songs of love will she let me hear
If you sing songs, go court some other
And whisper lowly in my ear.

My father he lies in the next room, simple
A-taking of his natural rest
And in his hand he holds a weapon
He says he'll kill the one that I love best

Come go with me, you will stop my pining
Sit you down by the side of me
And lay your loving arms around me
And say you'll love no one but me

I'll go with you to some lonesome valley
I'll spend the rest of my days with you
Although my meat may be pretty berries
And the water that I drink be the morning dew

Pretty flowers were made to bloom, love,
Pretty stars were made to shine
And pretty girls were made for boys, love,
And maybe you were made to be mine.

From Judy Cook's CD "If You Sing Songs..."

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